

REMARKS

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 144-145, 147-150, 153, 157-185, 187, 189, 191, 193-200, 202-204, 206-208, 214-219, 222, 225-226, and 232-235.

Applicant requests entry of the foregoing amendments, as well as entry and full consideration of the arguments filed August 13, 2004 in response to the office action of July 15, 2004. The arguments in the response filed August 13, 2004, apply equally to the foregoing amended claims, as do the following arguments.

37 CFR 1.121

Claims 211 and 228 have been amended to comply with 37 CFR 1.121.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The examiner states that at least claims 154, 211, 227 and 231 raise new issues under 35 U.S.C. § 112, wherein said claims have transitional language of varying scope in the claims.

Response

The transitional language of claims 154, 211, and 227-231 has been amended and the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. The amendments to the transitional language are not believed to narrow the claims.

CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendments, consideration of the arguments previously presented and the argument presented above, and allowance of the foregoing claims. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this response, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-0429 maintained by Baker Hughes Incorporated.

09/04/04
Date

Respectfully submitted,

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